U.S. Department of Justice

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EVENT: Indictment

Defendant: John Dingle

FORMER DETROIT LAW DEPARTMENT ATTORNEY INDICTED

An attorney who was formerly employed with Law Department for the City of Detroit , John Dingle, 44, was indicted by a federal grand jury in Detroit on charges of mail fraud and conspiracy to commit mail fraud United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today. Murphy was joined in the announcement by Andrew G. Arena, FBI Special Agent in Charge.

The 15-count indictment charges that between August 2001 and June 2002, Dingle used his position in the City of Detroit Law Department to obtain information about certain residential properties in Detroit that had previously been owned by MCA Financial Corporation, which was in bankruptcy. Dingle then prepared and sold fraudulent quitclaim deeds to some of the properties to witting and unwitting purchasers. The fraudulent quitclaim deeds were then recorded with the Wayne County Register of Deeds.

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy said, "An attorney who represents a municipal government must not use his position to take advantage of real estate transactions, which is what today's charges allege. My office will vigorously investigate and pursue such allegations of abuse of the public trust."

SAC Arena advised, "Public corruption remains a criminal investigative priority for the

FBI and we will continue to investigate any public officials - elected or appointed - who abuses their office for personal gain."

An indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is entitled to a fair trial in which it will be the government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The case was investigated by special agents of the FBI. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney John Engstrom.